

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) ~~Publie~~ A public address system allowing uniform sound coverage over a zone to be addressed, comprising: ~~a network~~

an array of electroacoustic sources (1), each electroacoustic source (1) diffusing a version delayed by a delay (3), filtered by a filter (4), and amplified by an input signal amplifier (5) of the system, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein said ~~network~~ array is essentially rectilinear and vertical, in that the angles θ formed by the axes of emission of the electroacoustic sources (1) and the normal line to the ~~network~~ array are such that $\theta_n > \theta_{n-1}$, where n is the index of the electroacoustic sources (1) numbered in increasing order from top to bottom of the system, and in that the delays (3) work with the angles θ such that the system generates a wave front (6) of the shape corresponding to the desired sound coverage of the zone to be addressed,

wherein the angles of inclination θ of the electroacoustic sources (1) are chosen such that for each of the electroacoustic sources (1), the distance d separating the center of said electroacoustic source from the point of intersection between the axis of emission of said electroacoustic source and the desired wave front is minimal, and

wherein the delays (3) are essentially $R_n = R_{n-1} + (d_{n-1} - d_n)/c$ for $n > 1$, R_n being the delay in seconds linked to the nth electroacoustic source, R_1 being any value, c being the speed of sound in m/s, the distances d being expressed in meters.

2-3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein the electroacoustic sources (1) are direct radiation loudspeakers.

5. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 4, wherein the loudspeakers are equipped with essentially rectangular membranes.

6. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein the electroacoustic sources (1) are loudspeakers radiating through waveguides.

7. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 6, wherein each waveguide radiates through an essentially rectangular orifice such that the particular acoustic velocity is at any instant essentially the same at any point of the radiation orifice.

8. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein the electroacoustic sources (1) are groups of loudspeakers.

9. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 8, wherein the loudspeakers of the same group are adjacent, located in the same plane, and combined such that the group radiates essentially as a rectangular piston would in the frequency band under consideration.

10. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein the electroacoustic sources (1) are fixed on the same speaker (2).

11. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein the electroacoustic sources (1) are attached to speakers that are mechanically connected to one another.

12. (currently amended) ~~System~~ The system according to claim 1, wherein the electroacoustic sources (1) are of different heights.

13-19. (canceled)